Howland Wood - Curatorial

Chapin, May W.

[Mrs. William V. Chapin]

1918-1920

[Boston, MA]

TEL. HAYMARKET 52165

2, BRIMMER STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Mr Wood

A dear friend of mine, Dr. Malcolm Storer has just given me your name & address & says I may presume to write for to help information about the three Coins & medals in my collection

I have about 2700 Greek - all Religious, Patron Saints & cities, Shrines & Madonna, &c, & I know a little more about Iconology than I do about numismatics & will you help me? Can you see me any day

about the medals! Prof Rawlinson
the Cuneiform Inscriptions - Hastings has
has deciphered many for me, & I
have several more, but they
are chiefly about Saints, & I don't
care often for all these, as
perhaps They do not interest you
at all - but Malcolm says
you are the most learned person
on all Eastern coins & languages -
I must be deeply indebted to you
if you will - as your hieroglyphics are
both at these 3 - & enlighten me
a little - I have my medals
all mounted & Topped & Cap

for this about here, with pictures & hymns &c about each
me - as I can find them - My Cousin Geo. & Georgie
R Dyer, says I am a profane & drill holes in
Valuable coins. / But I know left the whole collection to
a Sisterhood of J.J. Baptist, & they are not to be sold
ever! Do you know a Father Gladh, here,
by Chance, named / M Baker, he seems
wonderfully learned, like you - I think I
can ask him about - these other medals
by mine - I wish so much you could
come & see my collection - (my cabinet
is in London. I had I was have a larger
one than I have -) - & may for

will pardon me for troubling you
about me -

Very sincerely yours
Mary W. Chapin

(Mrs Wm T. Chapin)

Do you any good numismatic
Journal I can subscribe to?
I have Berlin "Münz Blätter" & foreign abroad,
& I have Spinks - Lee - & a Mag.
but in Fort Worth Texas! Is there
nothing here else? I am not a
numismatic, but am naturally interested
in the subject, collecting Texas Coins
Coins - &c -

TEL. HAYMARKET 52165

July 6

2, BRIMMER STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

My dear Sir

On June 24th I sent
a small box with note enclosed
to Howland Wood esqre,
being prompted to do by
his paid account. Ad-
dressed Shrewsbury St -
but having
heard from R. Hunt very
much about Boston P.O
may have misdirected it -
Will you kindly let me
know if received the

Society's Museum. You
understand I am in no
hurry whatever for the return
of those medals I sent Mr.
Wood for his kind identification,
I only would like to have
them, as my books &
records of my 270 medals
should be thrown upset - so I
must be careful & You
must let me know whether
it was convenient

up in New York —

Yours very Cordially

Mary W. Chapin

I enclose an envelope
with my address & stamp
for return —

July 8th, 1918.

Mrs. William V. Chapin,
2 Brimmer Street,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Madam:-

Please pardon my delay in not answering your first communication. The fact is I was away on my vacation and only returned a few days ago. I have your letter and the three coins here, and in the course of the next few days will return the pieces, and will let you know what I can about them. I happened to be in Boston last week, but unfortunately did not know in time about your collection. If I should get up there again in the immediate future I would take much pleasure in looking over your cabinet. I know Dr. Storer very well.

I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

Curator.

TEL. HAYMARKET 52165

August 8th 1918

2, BRIMMER STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Mr. Hart—

Thank you very much
for your kind note, for the
medals that have just come
& for all the decent information
about them, & for the copy of
the "Numismatist" also—
It is very good of you to
take so much trouble for an
old woman who really is
by no stretch of imagination
a "Numismatist" The Lord

RECEIVED AND REGISTERED { *Article No.* 5124 ....., 191
..... *class postage paid.*

From The American Tombstone Co
Berwyn, Ill.

Addressed to Mrs. Nellie V. Chase
in Bremen or Bremen Mills

Return receipt desired ....

Delivery restricted { *To addressee in person* ....
To addressee or order ..... *Postmaster, per* .....

c5—6869

POSTMARK

August 8th, 1918.

Mrs. William V. Chapin,
2 Brimmer Street,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Chapin:-

I owe you many apologies for not returning your coins to you before. The fact of the matter is that an important exhibition beginning August 1st completely side tracked everything else. Under separate cover I am returning the three coins to you.

You will note that with the large one I stated that it is a fake. Some of these come quite large. All of them are cast and have the same general scheme of lettering, dates and crude heads or figures. I have never heard any satisfactory explanation about them except that they keep being discovered in all sorts of out of the way places. Everything about them show that they are fairly modern as the legends are meaningless and the type of letters employed fit no especial age and the use of the dates chiefly in the 11th and 12th centuries is a physical impossibility.

Probably the best magazine published in this country is the Numismatist edited by Frank G. Duffield, 1811 Mosher Street, Baltimore, Md. Our own Society publishes an annual volume at five dollars a year, which includes from three to six long articles on fairly scientific numismatic subjects. Our associate membership is five dollars a year which includes the magazine as well as the Numismatist. We would be very pleased to have you join our Society, and I am enclosing an application card.

I am sending, under separate cover, a copy of the Numismatist.

I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

Curator.

August 12th, 1918

Mrs. William V. Chapin,
2 Brimmer Street,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Chapin:-

Your favor at hand, and I am very glad to know you got the three pieces safely. I would also be very pleased to see you here on your way through New York in November, and will show you many things that we have.

Yours very truly,

Curator.

TEL. HAY. 52817

BROOKS MANSION
89, MT. VERNON STREET
BOSTON MASS.

October 25th, 1919.

Mrs. Mary Worth Chapin,
89 Mt. Vernon Street,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mrs. Chapin:-

Pardon my delay in acknowledging your letter of October 20th. I would be very glad to have you send on whatever medals that bother you. I can not guarantee that I can help you out much on these but I will do my best. I would also like to see the St. Constantine medal that you speak about.

I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

Curator.

TEL. HAY. 52817

BROOKS MANSION
89, MT. VERNON STREET
BOSTON MASS.

November 1st, 1919.

Mrs. Mary Worth Chapin,
Brook Mansion,
29 Mt. Vernon Street,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Chapin:-

The package of proofs came to hand Friday. As yet I have had time only to glance over them. There are a few I think I can help you out on but rather inquire that on most of them I can not answer the questions you ask. However only a little bit I can do so much gain. Just when I can more than that is problematical.

I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Cashier.

89 Mt. Vernon St

December 18

Alexander Wood

RECEIPT FOR REGISTERED ARTICLE

Registered at the Post Office Indicated in Postmark

No. 21654

Class postage 1

Complete record of registered mail is kept at the post office, but the sender should write the name of the addressee on back hereof as an identification. Preserve and submit this receipt in case of inquiry.

POSTMASTER,

Per

Postmark clearly, showing date and office.

Form 3806. 26—8852

December 19, 1919

Mrs. W. V. Chapin
89 Mount Vernon Street,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mrs. Chapin:

I certainly want to apologize to you for not returning the Byzantine medal. First, I kept it to confirm my own opinion of it, and then I was drawn on jury duty, and overlooked sending it to you.

I am sorry to tell you anything that may disappoint you about this, but numismatists judge things by style and comparison. This medal, under no conditions, could have been made in Roman or Byzantine times. I cannot see any indication where it could have been made before 1500. To our mind, the date 1505 is conclusive evidence that it was made in that year. The style of the figures is correct for that period, and the workmanship is Russian or Balkan. In other words, it could have been made anywhere where Russian influence prevailed.

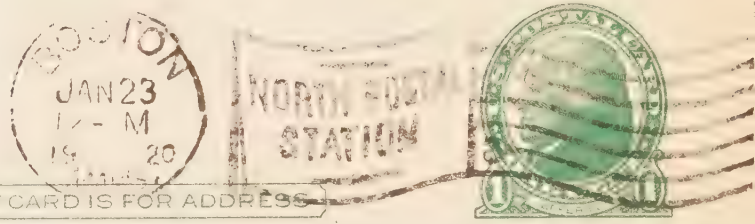
The rest of the medals I will try to get at some time in January. We are now busy balancing up our year's work, and preparing for the Annual Meeting.

Very truly,

Curator.

(Enclosure)

Mrs. Chapin regrets very much troubling
Mr. Hoar [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
W Chapin
[illegible]
January 22 4


BOSTON
JAN 23
M
20
NORTH
STATION
THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

January 14, 1920

Mrs. W. V. Chapin
89 Mt. Vernon Street
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mrs. Chapin:

Since the first of the year, I have been able to go over the coins and medals you sent some time ago, and I am returning them to you by Parcel Post insured. I am able to help you out to a more or less degree on about a quarter of them, but am unable to give you any help on the purely religious badges, as these are something I know nothing about, and have no means of looking up.

Very truly,

Curator.

TEL. HAY. 52817

January 28th
1920

BROOKS MANSION
89, MT. VERNON STREET
BOSTON MASS.

Dear Mr Woods—

The medals have all safely arrived! & such an interesting time have I spent copying carefully into my old red book every letter word that you so kindly & learnedly wrote on each envelope! I am more indebted to you than words can express, & beg with best wishes all old coins instead of mine & family thunders & shrines, & time for me and

not be able to write "I don't know"
to a single enquiry.' To it is
evidently as a real immediate
that true knowledge is shown,
& not merely as a dabbler
in Saints-lives & legends.' I
am very much obliged to you
indeed, & I only hope you
may some day step here &
see all these medals, & fill
us his known & pleasure
by doing so. I beg to enclose
at least the postage that you
have advanced upon me,
& with all good wishes to

for, in this personal study
for so brilliant [illegible]
likewise me, such — deep appreciation
& true courtesy —

Very sincerely yours

Mary Worth Chapin

(Mrs William V. Chapin)